in every case to reduction in the price of the bulk drug. The prices of scheduled drugs are fixed from time to time in accordance with the procedures and norms laid down under the provisions of DPCO, 1987. The reduced prices of bulk drugs/intermediates are taken into account in such price fixation. Regarding non-scheduled drugs the Government keeps a constant watch on the movements of their prices.

Gas based fertilizer plant in Tamil Nadu

653. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up a gas-based fertilizer plant in Thanjavur Cavery basin in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) M/s. Tamil Nadu Chemical Product Ltd. Madras, submitted an application on 31st January, 1991 for a licence for setting up an ammonia (300 tpd) and urea (500 tpd) plant in the District of Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu at a total estimated cost of Rs. 60 crores. The availability of natural gas for the proposed project has not been confirmed.

Private sector to run FCI and HFC

654. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the accumulated losses of FCI and HFC at the end of March, 1990;

(b) what are the causes for their dismal performance;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to allow private sector to run these fertilizer corporations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The accumulated losses of FCI and HFC at the end of March, 1990 are Rs. 1,217.02 crore and Rs. 949.70 crore respectively.

(b) The main cause of the poor performance of these companies is low capacity utilization due to design deficiencies, equipment and power problems, shortage of raw materials and also industrial relations problems in the case of some units.

(c) and (d) No decision has been taken by Government to allow the private sector to run these companies.

655. *[Transferred to the 6th December, 1991].*

Subsidy to fertilizer manufacturers

656. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total subsidy paid to Fertilizer manufacturers in the year 1990-91, as also its break up with regard to private manufacturers, cooperatives and public undertakings;

(b) cost to be realised from farmers in the same period;

(c) stocks of fertilizers just before enhancement of realisation price from farmers with particular reference to Punjab;

(d) fetilizer consumption during the year 1990-91 in Punjab; and

(e) whether State agencies were required to part with these stocks at old rates, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The total subsidy paid to fertilizer manufacturers in 1990-91 to